



# THE NATIONAL Voter

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17th STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

## CONGRESSIONAL ROUNDUP

Congress was still in session as the deadline fell upon us for this issue of *THE NATIONAL VOTER*, but all signs point to adjournment of the first session of the 87th sometime in September.

As of August 31, Congress had taken action on major legislation as follows:

**FOREIGN AID ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961:** Cleared authorization for foreign economic and military aid in fiscal 1962 of \$4,253,500,000 and \$1.5 billion in each of the following 4 years (fiscal 1963-66) for Development Loan Fund long-term, low-interest development loans. The final bill did not include the authority requested by the President for long-term borrowing from the Treasury Department. Instead, the 5-year authorization requires annual appropriations for DLF loans.

The Act also authorized the President to establish a new foreign aid agency; to guarantee up to \$1 billion in overseas development investments against inconvertibility, expropriation, loss due to war, revolution, and insurrection; to guarantee up to 75 percent (not to exceed \$10 million) of an overseas investment, against unspecified risks, with a ceiling of \$90 million on such guarantees in the aggregate; to guarantee an aggregate of \$10 million in investments in Latin American housing projects; to use \$10 million of the \$380 million authorized for development grants to encourage foreign currency loans to small farmers associations.

The Act prohibited loans for construction or operation of a productive enterprise directly in competition with U.S. enterprises unless the recipient nation agreed to limit ex-

ports to the United States to 20 percent of the total annual production of the enterprise.

### Pamphlet Tier

To renew or restyle or replace—that is the question which will soon confront Congress as it considers the future of the Trade Agreements Act, expiring June 30, 1962. Experts and commentators predict “a great debate” in the grand tradition.

“The Politics of Trade,” a League publication just off the press, attempts to clarify for the average citizen the major areas of agreement and disagreement on trade. It will help you to take part in the debate.

The pamphlet is written from the vantage point of long-held League positions in support of a liberal trade policy and world economic development. It assesses the present situation and points up new problems.

It's readable, timely, “a must.” Order it from your Publications Chairman or write to the national office. 50 cents a copy.

It also prohibited aid to the present government of Cuba and authorized the President to establish a complete U.S.-Cuba trade embargo.

**LATIN AMERICAN AID (P.L. 87-41):** Appropriated \$500 million for Inter-American Fund for Social Progress, \$100 million for Chilean Reconstruction-Rehabilitation Program.

**OECD:** Senate agreed to ratification of convention creating the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

**COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY:** Senate approved ratification of treaty with Canada for development of water resources of the Columbia River.

**OMNIBUS AGRICULTURAL ACT (P.L. 87-128):** Broadened and extended various farm programs and provided

additional authority for disposing of surplus wheat and feed grains. Extended National Wool Act through March 31, 1966.

Title II of the Act extended P.L. 480, the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, to December 31, 1964, increasing an existing \$11.25 billion authorization for a surplus-agricultural-commodity foreign-currency sales program by \$4.5 billion, with a limit of \$2.5 billion on sales in any one year; provided for the donation of up to \$900 million in surplus commodities, plus carryover funds, for emergency disaster relief and economic development; authorized the dollar sale to American tourists of foreign currencies accrued from overseas sales of surplus commodities; required that 5 percent of the proceeds of such sales be set aside for agricultural market development activities in countries which are or may become dollar markets.

**DUTY-FREE ALLOWANCE (P.L. 87-132):** Reduced from \$500 to \$100, until July 1, 1963, the amount of foreign purchases a returning U.S. resident may bring into the country duty-free.

**U.S. TRAVEL SERVICE (P.L. 87-63):** Established in the Commerce Department a U.S. Travel Service authorized to operate branch offices in foreign countries, to encourage residents of other countries to travel in the United States.

**COMMUNIST CHINA:** Adopted a Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States continue to oppose the seating of Communist China in the United Nations.

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## Dear Member:

When does the League year begin? For record-keeping purposes, precisely on April 1. But in actuality the beginning of the League year is a ragged thing, varying from locality to locality and from state to state according to when the local Program is chosen, when the state Program is chosen. The national Program year begins when the national Convention adjourns.

For the League member, therefore, the beginning of her League year may stretch over a period of several months while she or her representatives are choosing the Program on all three levels. The local League might thus be said to represent "pure democracy," for each member votes (assuming she exercises her right to vote) directly on the local Program. On the state and national levels she participates in preliminary discussions in her local League, but the Program is adopted at state and national conventions by the votes of duly accredited delegates of her local League and other local Leagues; this is "representative democracy."

From now until the opening of the national Convention in Minneapolis on April 30 we have three big and somewhat overlapping and confusing things to do on national Program—not necessarily all at once nor in any particular sequence.

For one, we enter the second half

of our intensive study of the Program chosen by the 1960 Convention. Many new developments in the trade picture require us to take a new look at certain aspects of this important subject and perhaps reach new consensus.

For another, we shall be continuing, as we have done this year in aid, to take action on existing League positions on international trade. Dozens of possible contingencies will determine what we can do and will do to implement what the League in previous years has said it believed in. But the expiration in 1962 of the Trade Agreements Act means that there will be action.

With the publication this month of a new pamphlet, "The Politics of Trade," the national Board has put into your hands a tool that will help us in both of these tasks—a new look, followed by new consensus if we think it would be desirable; clear understanding of old positions as a basis for action.

Further, we shall soon begin the process of choosing, from among all the possible subjects with which our national government will be concerned, the one or ones on which League members want to concentrate their time and energy in the 1962-64 biennium. The individual League member has a responsibility to take part in the program-making process, to speak up at the right times and places in choosing the national Pro-

gram, which is the most important key to our effectiveness as a national organization. The local League Board should see that every member has the opportunity to do this.

Can we do all three of these things—program-making, new study and consensus, action—between September and April, keeping them separate in our minds though they are related to each other and may on occasion be discussed at the same unit or general meeting? It is a tall order.

Lecturing in this country on the evolution of man, Sir Julian Huxley listed what he conceived to be man's ultimate goals in life: beauty, knowledge, pure delight, inner peace and harmony, and active participation. And one of our young League Presidents with a husband, children, household, and a wide variety of community interests and responsibilities said one day not long ago, "You know, I think we talk too much about all the work the League does. We do work, but most of what we call work is deeply satisfying, a good share of it pure delight."

I would add that we can reach that goal of "inner peace and harmony" if we but continue "active participation" during these times of world tensions and, in the words of President Kennedy, "remain serene and balanced, properly poised for the long run that follows every short run."

Ruth S. Phillips

President

## OEF—A BLOOMING ENTERPRISE

What's in a name? The *Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters* blooms as sweet as by its former name—Carrie Chapman Catt Memorial Fund.

The change in name does not change the aim. The Overseas Education Fund will continue to work with the League of Women Voters as an educational and research organization designed to promote among individuals here and abroad an understanding of how representative government works in a free society.

The Fund was created in 1947 in honor of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, suffrage leader, civic leader, and honorary President of the League

until her death in 1947.

To meet present-day needs, OEF is expanding from a small and very personal operation to an enlarged but concentrated effort, with more emphasis on projects. However, it still offers its individual-to-individual service, a hallmark of the Fund's 14 years of activity.

In this area, as Mrs. Katie Louchheim, Consultant to the State Department on Women's Activities, has said, the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters is "one of the most professional organizations in the country." Testimony to this "professionalism" is to be found in the increasing number of

requests for assistance from departments in the U.S. government, from other nongovernmental organizations, and from individuals abroad.

### In India

The OEF's personalized service can be illustrated by a chain of events which started two years ago. Mrs. Hilda Raj, the wife of a World Bank official, accompanied her husband to Washington, and during their stay she learned of the work of the League of Women Voters and its overseas education fund.

When her husband gave her \$500 for a two-weeks trip around the United States, she came to OEF for

help in planning her route. The tour took her to many Leagues throughout the country, and she was so impressed by what she saw that she resolved to start a similar organization in India.

Early this year a letter from Mrs. Raj brought word that the Stree Matadar Sanstha (Women's Voters Association) has been organized in Bombay, and that plans were under way for similar groups in Lucknow and New Delhi.

## In Colombia

Another example of OEF service was the formation of the Union de Ciudadanas de Colombia (League of Women Citizens of Colombia) in 1958. This came about with the encouragement of Alberto Lleras Camargo, President of Colombia, who had learned about the League while he was Ambassador to the United States. He urged the women of his country to form a similar organization and in 1957 OEF received inquiries from a group of Colombian women. With a national election coming up—the first in which Colombian women could vote—they asked how to get out the vote. OEF sent League Voters Service materials, some in Spanish, and eventually a consultant from OEF went to Colombia to give assistance.

Today in Colombia there are four UCC groups and four "provi-

### It Gains Something in the Translation . . .

. . . League material, we mean, and particularly Voters Service material.

- It gains active participation in voting and increases interest in governmental issues (and isn't that the League's purpose?) in certain areas of the United States where there are sizeable colonies of citizens who still communicate more comfortably in their native language than in English.

- And, through the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters, it gains new friends\* in other countries, especially those in which women have only recently been granted the vote. The OEF is doing some translating, but cannot begin to fill the need—especially in Spanish.

- So, if your League has translated League material of any kind into any language — especially Spanish — OEF would appreciate it if copies could be sent to the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters, 1026 17th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

sionals," in League terminology. All are doing *Know Your Town* studies, which will be published. The UCC also is planning, with OEF help, a seminar for Latin American women in Colombia in April 1962.

One of the problems that the UCC had in organizing (the reason that materials and assistance need to be tailored to each country) was in connection with "nonpartisanship."

This concept was unfamiliar to

those living in a country where every citizen is a strong adherent of one party or another. So in the beginning UCC found it necessary to have two presidents, representing both political views. Today, UCC is practicing single presidency in League-like nonpartisan fashion.

Then, too, one local UCC has been confronted with a problem whose parallel has not yet been found in the United States. The governor of a province asked it to help him prevent banditry, and that UCC is now working on ways to recover women held by bandits.

## The World Around

Where else in the world are there League-type organizations—groups which have received OEF assistance?

There are three in Germany—Wiesbaden, Munich, Berlin—which have been in existence for over 10 years.

Trinidad, Japan, the Philippines, and Argentina also have women's groups patterned after the League.

Citizens of many countries find their way—by mail or in person—to the OEF offices in Washington. In the last four months of 1960, for example, letters and visitors were received from 43 countries—11 Asian, 13 South American, 11 African and Middle Eastern, eight European.

Publications in the field of citizen education represent another service of OEF. Perhaps its most popular piece is "Simplified Parliamentary Procedure," which has gone over the million mark in printing. In addition to Spanish, "SPP" has been translated or is in the process of being translated into Japanese, Turkish, German, Greek, Arabic, Italian, Bengali, Urdu, Portuguese.

Other OEF activities include Capitol Hill tours for foreign leaders in Washington; the Overseas Guests project (in which some 80 Leagues were contacted about Fulbright-grant families in their area); United Nations conferences, of which two were held in January 1961 in California, and two are to be held this fall in Illinois and Kentucky; and a three-week seminar in October for 15 women leaders—12 from Latin America, three from the United States.

There's no question about it—the bloom is certainly on the Overseas Education Fund.



Senator Carl Hayden (D., Ariz.), only person still in Congress who voted "yea" on 19th Amendment when it passed in 1919, was honored by League of Women Voters at surprise ceremony August 18, date on which in 1920 amendment was ratified by necessary 36th state. Vice President Johnson looks on; other guests included Senators from 16 states in which women had full and equal suffrage before passage of amendment and majority and minority leaders of Senate. Members of national Board of League residing in Washington area officiated: (left) Mrs. William H. Wood, national Secretary, read letter sent to the Senator by national President Mrs. Robert J. Phillips; (far right) Mrs. Haskell Rosenblum presented copy of "Front Door Lobby," written by Mrs. Maud Wood Park, who lobbied amendment through Congress in final two years and was League's first President (1920-24); (in front of the Vice President) Mrs. Luigi Petruccio presented the Senator with bouquet fashioned like one presented to Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt in August 1920 upon successful conclusion of 72-year campaign for woman suffrage.



(Continued from page 1)

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL (P.L. 87-88):** Amended Water Pollution Control Act: increased authorization of funds for sewage-treatment-plant construction through 1967; provided for storage of water to allow release downstream during low-flow periods; continued federal authority to start action against any city or industry polluting interstate waters and added authority for federal action on intrastate streams at the request of Governor of a state. Placed Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare in charge of administration of program.

**CAPE COD SEASHORE (P.L. 87-126):** Established within the Interior Department's national park system the Cape Cod National Seashore on the northern end of Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

**AREA REDEVELOPMENT ACT (P.L. 87-27):** Authorized a 4-year, \$394 million program to aid chronically depressed industrial and rural areas. Established criteria, in relation to unemployment in urban areas or low-income families in rural areas. Authorized two revolving loan funds of \$200 million each to be set up in the Treasury Department, one for industrial, one for rural development. A third Treasury fund of \$100 million was established to finance 40-year loans covering 100 percent of construction and improvement costs of public facilities in both types of development areas. Also authorized appropriations for grants for public facilities in redevelopment areas unable to repay federal loans. The program will be directed by an Administrator, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, to serve under the Secretary of Commerce. An Advisory Policy Board of officials of 8 federal agencies involved in redevelopment and a 25-member National Public Advisory Committee, composed of state and local officials and public members, were created.

**HOUSING (P.L. 87-70):** Authorized expansion of existing programs and new programs of assistance for moderate-income families, federal aid for urban mass transportation systems, federal grants for urban "open space" development; liberalized regular Federal Housing Administration home-mortgage-insurance terms.

**MINIMUM WAGE (P.L. 87-30):** Raised from \$1 to \$1.25 over 2-year period the minimum wage for workers previously covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act. Extended minimum wage and (with some exceptions) overtime provisions of the Act to an estimated 3,624,000 additional workers.

**SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENTS (P.L. 87-64):** Broadened benefits for an estimated 4.4 million persons, with the costs of the added benefits to be met through increased payroll taxes; increased from \$33 to \$40 a month minimum payments to retired workers; permitted men as well as women to begin collecting benefits, on permanently reduced basis, at age of 62 instead of 65; increased a widow's benefits from 75 percent to 82.5 percent of husband's benefits; raised from \$1,201-\$1,500 to \$1,201-\$1,700 the level of earnings of retired persons for which \$1.00 is deducted from benefits for every \$2.00 earned, deductions on earnings above \$1,700 to be subject to dollar-for-dollar deductions; increased until July 1, 1962, funds for federal grants to states for public assistance to aged, blind, and disabled.

**AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN (P.L. 87-31):** Amended the Social Security Act to authorize the states to use matching federal grants to aid families of the unemployed under state public assistance programs for aid to dependent children, from May 1, 1961, through June 30, 1962.

**TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (P.L. 87-6):** Authorized federal advances to the states to enable them to extend unemployment benefits by up to 13 weeks for workers who have exhausted regular benefits under state unemployment insurance programs between June 30, 1960, and March 31, 1962. Provided for repayment of the federal advances by

increasing the net federal unemployment tax on employers for calendar years 1962-63.

**REORGANIZATION ACT (P.L. 87-18):** Reinstated the Reorganization Act of 1949 until June 1, 1963, authorizing the President to send plans to Congress for reorganization of agencies of the executive branch. These plans would take effect in 60 days after submission to Congress unless disapproved by majority vote of the House or Senate.

As of August 28, Congress had rejected three of the seven plans submitted by the President. The House "vetoed" the plan for the Federal Communications Commission and the National Labor Relations Board; the Senate rejected the plan for the Securities and Exchange Commission. Plans for the Federal Trade Commission and the Civil Aeronautics Board have taken effect. After the rejection of the reorganization plan for the FCC, Congress passed a bill putting most of the proposed changes into effect but withholding some of the powers that had been proposed for the Commissioner.

## Busman's Holiday

What do members of League Boards do when they're not "doing League"? Many of them do similar, League-like work with other groups!

Space does not permit THE NATIONAL VOTER to list all members of local and state League Boards who qualify for such a roster, but we can tell you what three members of the national Board have been doing recently.

Mrs. Phillips, national President, has been serving as a member of the Citizens Committee for International Development. This group was formed at the request of President Kennedy; its objective is "to reflect the strong support of prominent citizens" for adequate foreign aid assistance.

Mrs. Wood, national Secretary, is representing the League on the American Food-for-Peace Council. This group, too, was set up by President Kennedy, and is composed largely of representatives of national organizations.

Miss Stuhler, national Board member, recently returned from the 35th Wilton Park Conference in England. A two-week discussion was held on "The Two Sides of the Atlantic Community: North America and Europe." Miss Stuhler was one of eight chosen from the United States, and was the only woman among the 28 participants from 11 countries.

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